

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method to provide incentives for client machines to contribute resources to a peer-to-peer computer network, the method comprising:
 - receiving requests for information from a plurality of client machines;
 - determining if the client machines are contributing resources to peer-to-peer sharing; and
 - sending the requested information to the client machines based upon a priority scheme giving high priority to the requests from clients the client machines which are contributing resources to peer-to-peer sharing.
2. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of giving high priority to the client machines which contribute are contributing resources to peer-to-peer sharing further comprises giving higher priority to requests within the high priority requests in proportion to [[the]] a level of resources contributed by a given client machine within the client machines which are contributing resources to peer-to-peer sharing such that an additional prioritization is provided for the high priority requests themselves based on the level of resources contributed by the client machines which are contributing resources to peer-to-peer sharing.
3. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the resources client machines [[may]] contribute to peer-to-peer sharing comprise at least two of:
 - disk space;
 - bandwidth;
 - CPU resources;
 - memory; and
 - specified number of connecting users.
4. (Currently amended) A method for accessing information in a peer-to-peer computer network by a device, the method comprising:
 - contributing, by the device, computer resources to peer-to-peer sharing technology;
 - requesting, by the device, information from a network server; and

receiving, by the device, the requested information from the network server, the requested information being provided by the network server based upon a two-layered priority scheme giving priority to providing the requested information by giving priority to requests from client machines which are contributing resources to peer-to-peer sharing to form prioritized requests, and then by giving priority to the prioritized requests in proportion to a level of the computer resources contributed to peer to peer sharing by the device.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 4, wherein the resources contributed to peer-to-peer sharing comprise:

- disk space;
- bandwidth;
- CPU resources;
- memory; and
- specified number of connecting users.

6. (Currently amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for use in a data processing system, to provide incentives for client machines to contribute resources to a peer-to-peer computer network, the computer program product comprising:

- instructions for receiving requests for information from a plurality of client machines;
- instructions for determining if the client machines are contributing resources to peer-to-peer sharing; and
- instructions for sending the requested information to the client machines based upon a priority scheme giving high priority to the requests from clients the client machines which are contributing resources to peer-to-peer sharing .

7. (Currently amended) The computer program product according to claim 6, wherein the instructions for giving high priority to the client machines which contribute are contributing resources to peer-to-peer sharing further comprise instructions for giving higher priority to requests within the high priority requests in proportion to [[the]] a level of resources contributed by a given client machine within the client machines which are contributing resources to peer-to-peer sharing such that an additional prioritization is provided for the high priority requests themselves based on the level of resources contributed by the client machines which are contributing resources to peer-to-peer sharing.

8. (Currently amended) The computer program product according to claim 6, wherein the resources client machines [[may]] contribute to peer-to-peer sharing comprise at least two of:

disk space;

bandwidth;

CPU resources;

memory; and

specified number of connecting users.

9. (Currently amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for use in a data processing system, for accessing information in a peer-to-peer computer network, the method comprising:

instructions for contributing computer resources to peer-to-peer sharing technology;

instructions for requesting information from a network server; and

instructions for receiving the requested information from the network server, the requested information being provided by the network server based upon a two-layered priority scheme giving priority to providing the requested information by giving priority to requests from client machines which are contributing resources to peer-to-peer sharing to form prioritized requests, and then by giving priority to the prioritized requests in proportion to a level of the computer resources contributed to peer to peer sharing.

10. (Original) The computer program product according to claim 9, wherein the resources contributed to peer-to-peer sharing comprise:

disk space;

bandwidth;

CPU resources;

memory; and

specified number of connecting users.

11. (Currently amended) A system to provide incentives for client machines to contribute resources to a peer-to-peer computer network, the system comprising:

a receiving component which receives requests for information from a plurality of client machines;

a processing component which determines if the client machines are contributing resources to peer-to-peer sharing;

a register which maintains a queue of the received requests based upon a priority scheme giving priority to requests from clients which are contributing resources to peer-to-peer sharing; and

a communications component which sends the requested information to the client machines, wherein the register which maintains the queue also maintains a second queue for requests from the client machines which contribute resources, wherein higher priority is given for the requests in the second queue in proportion to a level of resources contributed by the client machines which contribute resources.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 11, wherein the resources client machines [[may]] contribute to peer-to-peer sharing comprise at least two of:

disk space;

bandwidth;

CPU resources;

memory; and

specified number of connecting users.

14. (Currently amended) A system for accessing information in a peer-to-peer computer network, comprising:

a peer-to-peer sharing component which contributes computer resources to peer-to-peer sharing technology;

a communications component which requests information from a network server; and

a receiving component which receives the requested information from the network server, the requested information being provided by the network server based upon a two-layered priority scheme giving priority to providing the requested information by giving priority to requests from client machines which are contributing resources to peer-to-peer sharing to form prioritized requests, and then by giving priority to the prioritized requests in proportion to a level of the computer resources contributed to peer to peer sharing by the peer-to-peer sharing component.

15. (Original) The system according to claim 14, wherein the resources contributed to peer-to-peer sharing comprise:

disk space;

bandwidth;

CPU resources;

memory; and
specified number of connecting users.